

## Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 COA-02 INT-08 EB-11 L-03 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 AGR-20 DRC-01 EUR-25 SAJ-01

DLOS-06 IO-14 /138 W

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P 051035Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 382

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, JA, XP

SUBJ: FISHERIES - SEATTLE MEETING ON BRISTOL BAY SALMON ISSUE

REFS: (A) STATE 39580 (B) STATE 39581

SUMMARY: FONOFF CONCERNED OVER IMPASSE IN NEGOTIATIONS AND VERY UNHAPPY OVER NOAA PLANS TO ISSUE PRESS RELEASE. FONOFF CONCERNS ON LATTER POINT RELATE TO CONFIDENTIALITY OF NEGOTIATIONS, IMPACT ON JAPAN-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS AND QTE IN-APPROPRIATENESS UNQUOTE OF SUCH ACTION BY USG AGENCY. DESPITE CLEAR INTEREST TO SEE SALMON ISSUE AMICABLY RESOLVED, FONOFF UNABLE PROVIDE SPECIFICS ON HOW TO PROCEED TO UNBLOCK IMPASSE. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS ONE MODIFICATION IN PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE. END SUMMARY

1. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION WITH EMBASSY ON SALMON ISSUE, ECON/COUNS AND REGFISHATT CALLED ON SUMIYA (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL, AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU, FONOFF) MARCH 5. MATSUURA (DEPUTY HEAD, FIRST NORTH AMERICA DIVISION) ALSO PRESENT. SUMIYA'S REQUEST PROMPTED BY FONOFF CONCERN OVER IMPASSE IN US-JAPAN NEGOTIATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THIS FOR USG-GOJ FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE

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AND FOR SOVIET-JAPAN FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE JUST

BEGUN.

2. ECON/COUNS SIMILARLY EXPRESSED USG CONCERN OVER IMPASSE IN NEGOTIATIONS. HE STRESSED SERIOUSNESS OF SALMON ISSUE TO FISHERIES INDUSTRY AND STATE OF ALASKA AND TO USG BOTH WITH RESPECT TO ITS OVERALL FISHERIES POLICY AND EFFECT OF THIS AND OTHER FISHERIES ISSUES ON US-JAPAN RELATIONS. NOTING BREADTH OF JAPANESE INTERESTS IN ALASKA, HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOJ COULD TAKE STEPS TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. IN PASSING, HE MENTIONED THAT NOAA WAS PLANNING TO ISSUE PRESS RELEASE CRITICIZING LACK OF EFFECTIVE JAPANESE ACTION ON THIS ISSUE.

3. SUMIYA REACTED STRONGLY TO LATTER POINT, STATING THAT GOJ WOULD BE VERY UNHAPPY IF PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY NOAA AT THIS TIME. H EMPHASIZED AGREEMENT BETWEEN US AND JAPAN THAT NO PUBLICITY BE GIVEN TO NEGOTIATIONS ON SALMON ISSUE AND ADDED THAT ISSUANCE OF PRESS RELEASE WHILE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUING WOULD RENDER NEGOTIATIONS MORE DIFFICULT. WHILE SUMIYA MOST CONCERNED RE EMBARRASSMENT TO GOJ FROM REFERENCE TO NEGOTIATIONS AND IMPACT ON ONGOING SOVIET-JAPAN FISHING TALKS, HE MADE IT CLEAR HE CONSIDERED IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR USG AGENCY TO ISSUE PRESS RELEASE RATHER THAN ADVISING INTERESTED PARTIES IN US BY INFORMAL MEANS.

4. IN RESPONSE ECON/COUNS AND REGFISHATT ASSURED SUMIYA THAT US SIDE FULLY AWARE OF DELICACY OF JAPANESE POSITION VIS-A-VIS PUBLICITY RE EXISTENCE OF NEGOTIATIONS AND INDICATED THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT PRESS RELEASE WOULD NOT VIOLATE JAPANESE CONFIDENCE ON THAT POINT BY ALLUDING EITHER TO FACT OR SPECIFICS OF NEGOTIATIONS. THEY ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT PRESS RELEASE WAS INDICATION OF DEPTH OF FEELING ON THIS ISSUE, THAT IT WAS NOT AIMED SOLELY FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION AND THAT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES IT SEEMED HARD TO JUSTIFY TOTAL SILENCE ON US PART.

5. DESPITE SEVERAL INVITATIONS TO EXPLAIN HOW GOJ PLANNED PROCEED, SUMIYA, WHILE MAKING IT CLEAR GOJ HOPED TO RESOLVE IMPASSE, WAS UNABLE PROVIDE SPECIFICS ON STEPS WHICH GOJ MIGHT BE WILLING TO TAKE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. HE ASKED REPEATEDLY WHETHER THERE WAS POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE IN US POSITION. EMBOFFS RESPONDED IT WAS FIRM AND URGED THAT GOJ TAKE SOME INITIATIVE.

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6. SINCE THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT WITHHOLDING OF PRESS RELEASE WOULD EXPEDITE NEGOTIATIONS, EMBASSY SEES NO REASON TO DELAY ITS ISSUANCE. IT RECOMMENDS, HOWEVER, THAT QTE JAPAN HAS NOT YET ADVISED THE UNITED STATES THAT ANY ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN UNQTE IN FIRST PARA BE CHANGED TO QTE JAPAN HAS NOT TAKEN ANY EFFECTIVE ACTION UNQTE. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT JAPAN HAS IN FACT MADE PROPOSALS, WHICH, HOWEVER, NOT ACCEPTABLE TO US.

CHARACTERIZING THESE PROPOSALS, IN EFFECT, AS QTE IRRESPONSIBLE  
UNQTE SEEMS UNDULY HARSH AND CERTAINLY NOT LIKELY TO LEAD TO  
ANY SOFTENING IN GOJ'S POSITION.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SALMON, MEETING AGENDA, FISHERIES MEETINGS, PRESS RELEASES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** (A) STATE 39580 (B) STATE 39581  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**TAGS:** EFIS, JA, XP, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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